

STAT 1223: APPLIED REGRESSION WRITING COMPONENT

SPRING 2025

Instructor:	Dr. Bryan Nelson
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Website:	bryantnelson.com
Office:	1817 Posvar Hall
Office Hours:	Tuesday 10:15 AM - 12:15 PM and Thursday 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM
Required Text:	<i>Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association</i> , 7th ed.
ISBN:	Paperback: 978-1-4338-3216-1 — Spiral-bound: 978-1-4338-3217-8
Class Time:	Wednesday: 10 AM - 10:50 AM, 11 AM - 11:50 AM, 12 PM - 12:50 PM
Classroom:	10 AM: 233 Lawrence Hall 11 AM: 1201 Posvar Hall 12 PM: 1201 Posvar Hall
Co-requisite:	STAT 1221

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course teaches students to write in the discipline of statistics. It satisfies one of the writing intensive course requirements for students majoring in statistics or the joint economics-statistics major. You will choose a topic of your choice, either find a dataset or collect your own data, and investigate your own research questions using statistical inference. Throughout the semester, you will write four papers, each resembling a different component of a journal article, and combine them into a quality piece of research.

GRADER INFORMATION

Your grader will be responsible for grading the four papers and holding office hours throughout the semester. Their information is listed below:

Name	Email	Office Hours	Office Hours Location
Oscar Fawcett	osf8@pitt.edu	Monday 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	1826A Posvar Hall

COURSE CALENDAR

Lecture	Date	Primary Topic	Format
1	January 8	Introduction to Statistical Writing	In-Person
2	January 15	Literature Review and APA Citation	In-Person
	January 22	Individual Meetings: Project Discussion	Online
	January 29	Individual Meetings: Project Discussion	Online
3	February 5	Writing the Introduction	In-Person
4	February 12	Writing About Data Collection	In-Person
5	February 19	Devising an Analysis Plan	In-Person
	February 26	Peer Review Session #1	In-Person
	March 5	<i>No Class: Spring Break</i>	
6	March 12	Descriptive Statistics	In-Person
7	March 19	Inferential Statistics	In-Person
	March 26	Peer Review Session #2	In-Person
8	April 2	Writing the Conclusion	In-Person
9	April 9	Writing the Abstract and Finishing the Final Paper	In-Person
	April 16	Peer Review Session #3	In-Person

Note: All online meetings will take place using Zoom ID **424 634 5819**.

ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PREPARATION

Of the 14 scheduled meetings, 9 will involve the discussion of the components of a journal article while analyzing and discussing several others. Classes will not be recorded or offered over Zoom. The first two classes are worth 1 point each for attending. In Lectures 3-9, we will be discussing parts of scholarly journal articles that correspond to the topic that day. Prior to class, you will be expected to read these excerpts. A 5-minute quiz on the reading(s) will take place at the beginning of each of these classes to ensure you did the reading. Each will be graded for accuracy and worth 2 points. In total, you can earn up to **18** points for attendance and class preparation. However, your score for this portion of your grade will be taken out of **15** points. Any points earned beyond **15** will be extra credit.

Each student is required to meet with the instructor one time near the beginning of the semester to discuss their class project. This meeting is worth **2** points and will take place on Zoom using meeting room ID **424 634 5819**. Six students in each section must meet on **January 22** while the other six will meet on **January 29**. To reserve a time slot for this meeting, click on **Calendar** on the left sidebar in Canvas. Click on the **Find Appointment** button on the right side, and reserve the time when you would like to meet. If you miss your meeting time or sign up too late so that no official times remain, you will not earn the 2 points; however, I can still meet with you during office hours to discuss your project direction.

The other three weeks of the semester (February 26, March 26, and April 16) will be peer review sessions held in-person. Each session will be worth **5** points. During these sessions, you will exchange papers with another student and provide feedback to them. The first session will review the introduction and methodology sections, the second will review the results section, and the third will review the conclusion. Although these papers are not expected to be the drafts you submit for grading, you must have made a concerted effort to complete most of the required sections so that your partner has sufficient content on which to provide feedback. Students failing to bring a draft with enough content to participate in the peer review will earn 0 points and will be expected to use that time to work on advancing their own paper.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

There are four major assignments and two minor assignments that you will turn in throughout the semester. Due dates are listed in the table below. The four major assignments correspond to the sections of any scholarly journal article. A detailed description of each can be found under the **Assignments** section in Canvas.

The first minor assignment is the project brainstorming. This is a short, informal paper that will help you identify project ideas. The second minor assignment is the submission of your dataset. This is to ensure that you have sufficient, relevant, and clean data to run your analyses. You may add additional variables or observations in subsequent weeks, but your submission must be a clean CSV file that is in a format ready for you to begin the data analysis.

All written assignments must be turned in as either a **.docx**, **.doc**, or **.pdf** file. No **.pages** files will be accepted. The dataset must be submitted as either a CSV or Excel file.

Assignment	Description	Points	Due Date
Project Brainstorming		5 pts.	January 19
Assignment 1	Literature Review	32 pts.	February 11
Assignment 2	Introduction and Methodology	33 pts.	March 11
Dataset Submission		5 pts.	March 11
Assignment 3	Results	37 pts.	April 1
Assignment 4	Final Paper	48 pts.	April 20
Attendance and Reading Quizzes		15 pts.	
Peer Review		15 pts.	
Total		190 pts.	

All assignments are due by 11:59 PM on the date specified above. A 1% penalty will be assessed for each hour late up to 96 hours, after which no credit may be earned. You will still be responsible for incorporating the content for all five components into the final report regardless of if the assignment was turned in. (Late submissions with no penalty may be permitted due to extenuating circumstances stemming from illness or family emergencies with appropriate documentation.)

FINAL COURSE GRADE

Final course grades will be rounded to the nearest percent and assigned based on the cutoffs in the table below. **Grades are not negotiable and no additional assignments will be offered as extra credit.**

Percent	93-100	90-92	88-89	83-87	80-82	78-79	73-77	70-72	68-69	63-67	60-62	0-59
Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F

COURSE POLICIES

Statement on Classroom Recording: To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student's own private use.

Disabilities: If you have a disability that requires special accommodations, contact Disability Resources and Services in 140 William Pitt Union (www.drs.pitt.edu). They will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course. Accommodations will not be granted retrospectively.

Academic Integrity: Students are expected to comply with the University of Pittsburgh's Academic Integrity policy (www.as.pitt.edu/fac/policies/academic-integrity). Any student found intentionally plagiarizing the work from an external source and attempting to pass it off as their own will receive an F for the course. Any student found deliberately copying or using another student's assignment or allowing another student to copy or use their own assignment will also receive an F for the course. This includes using the work of students from previous semesters. All cases of academic dishonesty may be subject to further disciplinary action than listed above, which may include participation in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity.

All assignments will be checked for plagiarism through Turnitin. Cases of academic integrity will not be reported solely based on Turnitin's report as this service is imperfect. Low similarity scores are expected to occur as assignments will involve referencing external sources. High similarity scores will be more thoroughly investigated for potential plagiarism and are at risk of being reported if additional proof supports evidence of academic integrity. You will only see the similarity score after the paper has been graded. If you have cited external sources and done the writing yourself, then you have nothing to worry about.

AI Policy: Students are permitted to use AI writing tools (e.g. Grammarly, ChatGPT, etc.) for checking grammar and syntax, as well as for correcting errors, improving readability, and verifying APA citations. Students are **not** permitted to use AI for generating content on assignments. All work must reflect the student's own analysis and critical thinking. Suspected violations will be reviewed under academic integrity policies. For additional support, students should utilize workshops, the [Pitt Writing Center](#) and instructor/grader feedback.

Diversity and Inclusion: The University of Pittsburgh does not tolerate any form of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation based on disability, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, genetic information, marital status, familial status, sex, age, sexual orientation, veteran status or gender identity or other factors as stated in the University's Title IX policy. The University is committed to taking prompt action to end a hostile environment that interferes with the University's mission. For more information about policies, procedures, and practices, see diversity.pitt.edu/affirmative-action/policies-procedures-and-practices.

I ask that everyone in the class strive to help ensure that other members of this class can learn in a supportive and respectful environment. If there are instances of the aforementioned issues, please contact the Title IX Coordinator, by calling 412-648-7860, or e-mailing titleixcoordinator@pitt.edu. Reports can also be filed online by visiting diversity.pitt.edu/make-report/report-form. You may also choose to report this to a faculty or staff member as they are required to communicate this to the University's Office of Diversity and Inclusion. If you wish to maintain complete confidentiality, you may also contact the University Counseling Center at 412-648-7930.

Health and Grading: In the event that extenuating personal circumstances prevent you from completing the course, a G grade may be awarded. However, a G grade may only be awarded if you have been making sufficient progress towards completing the course. If you are unable to complete this course, you must have turned in at least 3 of the 4 assignments plus the initial project brainstorming to have the opportunity for a G grade. If a G grade is awarded, then the student and instructor will complete a contract that details a plan and timeline for completing the course. Students with grades lower than 70% who are considering a request for a G grade are better off retaking the course in a future semester rather than attempting to complete the coursework on their own.